

# The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association July 1998, Vol. 65, No. 7

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## President's Message

They told me that one of the perks of this job is that I get to say anything I want and Robert has to publish it right up front on the first page every month. So, here goes!

First of all, I'd like to thank the members of FARA for their support and confidence in electing me as your president. It's an easy job to do, thanks to all the help I'm getting. I would also be remiss if I didn't thank my vice president, Bob, W1RH, for standing in for me, not once, but twice! I will try not to work him too hard for a while. Of course, we all thank Jim, W1EOW and Martin, AA1ON, for their service as last year's officers. They made it look easy, but are probably already enjoying a well-deserved break. If everything goes according to plan, you will be reading this while feasting on Dick's "chile" [did I get it right, Dick?] at the turkey farm. Field Day just wouldn't seem right without the Chef's cooking. True to FARA tradition, Dick has let nothing, not even moving to Marlboro, come before food. Dave, K1HT has been leading a dedicated group of Field Day workers in the preparation of antennas and towers. I see these people every week, dragging aluminum and cable out from the back hallway. This weekend wouldn't work without this kind of behind-the-scenes effort. FARA Field Day may look easy, but only because the prep work has been going on for months.

I suppose I should say something about my plans for the upcoming year. It's my job to lead FARA, and to leave it in better shape than it is now. I'll be identifying some areas where we can improve over the next few months, and making some suggestions. It's always difficult to make a good thing better, but I'm fortunate to have a good many willing helpers, and together, we will have a great year!

73,  
Peter, KA1AXY

## Thursday, July 2 This Month's Meeting

Marjie, KA1HIA

This month's meeting will include a complete and comprehensive wrap up of Field Day '98. Also, be sure to bring any items that you may want to "show and tell" at the meeting.

## Submitting Material to the Circuit

Material may be submitted for publication by sending it directly to the editor. This can be done by phone, by US Mail, or via the Internet (preferred). The deadline for each issue is the Thursday, one week before the monthly meeting.

**By phone**  
(508) 435-2055 (before 9:00PM please!)

**By mail**  
Robert Hase, N1UVA  
1 Cold Spring Brook Road  
Hopkinton, MA 01748

**By internet**  
[n1uva@ultranet.com](mailto:n1uva@ultranet.com)

## Scholarship Award to KE1GF

by George, N1XAN

FARA member, Bill Smith, KE1GF took second prize in a contest sponsored by Vocational Industrial Clubs of America. Competing were 15 units of students from different parts of Massachusetts. Totaling 15 members. The contest involved diagnosing trouble in 7 television sets and 5 translators in black boxes. Also involved was a 100 electronic parts digital game that had to be constructed in a time limit and be the first to power up when the competitor said he was through. First place was hotly contested and our man just missed. Second prize was a stereo receiver and a \$1500 scholarship to New England Tech in Rhode Island, won by Bill. This just goes to show the quality of our younger members.

## Framingham Proclaims Amateur Radio Week

by Bob, W1RH

At the June Selectmen's meeting, the Town of Framingham issued a proclamation declaring Field Day Week as Amateur Radio Week in Framingham. Marsha, K1NGI and Bob, W1RH were on hand to receive the proclamation. Thanks to Dick, K1KTK for arranging this event. The framed proclamation is on display in the Club shack.

**End of an Era:  
The Tower Comes Down at the  
Director's QTH**

Pictures taken by Mike, N1DVJ



The crew members included:  
Bob, W1RH  
Jim, W1EQW  
Martin, AA1ON (Boss)  
Mike, N1DVJ

and of course:  
Dick, K1KTK  
Marsha, K1NGI  
and others...



## WA1LGO..SK

Information provided by George,  
N1XAN

Club member, Ed Freeman, WA1LGO, passed away on June 16, 1998 at Leonard Morse Hospital. Ed was a Veteran, former newspaper reporter and proprietor of a musical instrument shop. We extend our sympathies to Ed's family.

Hamerick by W1VIV

### Another Field Day is Over!

At two on Sunday, it's done...  
It's a very big job, but it's fun.  
We pack up the towers  
Which takes a few hours  
If only we knew if we won!

## QSL Card

Submitted by Paul King, N1VAM

This was one of my more memorable SW listening experiences. I'd been following the developments in Eastern Europe with considerable interest, so when I knew the end was in sight for East Germany I increased my RBI listening. On the last night prior to reunification, they had a special program recapping their history and they closed with Beethoven's 9th Symphony. Promptly at midnight Central European Time, the RBI signal was terminated (interrupting the music) and Radio Deutsche Welle took over the frequency.

The world didn't lose much from the passing of the DDR, but their SW program was often pretty good - not solely the Stalinist diatribe that came from certain other communist countries.

I'd written to RBI several times in the past, and they always had nice QSL cards, so I wrote one last time. As you can see, they got my name wrong when they replied ... so it goes.

[Back of Card](#)



*More on Paul's card can be found in this month's newsletter on the club web site, including an accompanying letter.*

*If you would like to share your favorite QSL card, which could be your own, with the club, please send it my way! A caption or story would be appreciated also.*

*In the coming month's look for cards from Bob, W1RH and other FARA members.*



## Membership Dues

Annual membership dues are as follows: (Make checks payable to FARA)  
Regular FARA \$10  
Student / Retired \$5  
Repeater (voluntary) \$10

## FARA Horizons

Jul 2: Monthly Meeting  
Jul 27: Board Meeting

## Change of Address

If you would like to change the address on your Circuit label please direct all requests to Bev, N1LDO. She can be reached by the following:  
Email: [b-lees@juno.com](mailto:b-lees@juno.com)  
Phone: 626-2012

Radio  
Berlin  
International

The Voice of the  
German  
Democratic  
Republic  
English Section



Date as postmark:

Dear Listener,

Thank you for your letter. We were pleased that you were among the very many listeners who tuned into our last broadcast. As you may well know, Radio Berlin International ceased broadcasting as from midnight on 2nd October, 1990 as a result of the unification of the two German states.

The dissolution of our station means that we cannot offer you our traditional service for their final reports. We apologize for this and hope that the enclosed final QSL card will help keep your memory of our station and its programs alive.

We regret very much that we have to terminate our contact over the airwaves and by letter. May we take this opportunity to wish you every success in the future with your DX hobby and all the very best of health and happiness in your personal life.

Yours sincerely,

*Angelika Schulz*

Radio Berlin International

Museum in Frankfurt (Oder), O. D. R.

Volksempfänger (People's Receiver)

Of the 26.000 W power single circuit straight power for a VHF receiver built in 1933. There were used 20  
titanium valves: ZV 204, 16A-164, RGN 204, 16A-162, 16A-163, 16A-165, 16A-166, 16A-167, 16A-168,  
16A-169, 16A-170, 16A-171, 16A-172, 16A-173, 16A-174, 16A-175, 16A-176, 16A-177, 16A-178, 16A-179.  
With a 16A-169 consumption was used by 1942/43 to spread their propaganda. Importantly the radio station  
VE 391 was to convert its owners of the Nazis' Third Reich power in January 20th, 1933.

Very thanks to

Mr. Paul Kling

for your QSL reception reply of our programme

on 2.10.90

at 1.45 UTC

on 9730 kHz

miles

Date

17.10.90

